

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : **09/868,375**
Applicant : **ANDREWS et al.**
Filed : **6/18/2001**
Confirmation : **8890**
TC/A.U. : **2174**
Examiner : **VU, Thanh T.**
Atty. Docket : **PHN-17707**

Title: **INFORMATION PROCESSING DEVICE**

Mail Stop: **APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR 41.41

Sir:

This is a Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's answer dated 18 September 2008 in the subject application.

RESTATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF REJECTION

Claims 42-44, 47, 49-50, and 60-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz et al. (USP 5,959,621, hereinafter Nawaz) and Yamada et al. (USP 6,259,432, hereinafter Yamada).

Claim 48 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Barraus et al. (USP 6,693,652, hereinafter Barraus).

Claims 51 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Bates et al. (USP 6,693,652, hereinafter Bates).

Claim 52 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, Bates, and Glaser (USP 6,392,671).

Claim 55 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Flutka et al. (USP 5,758,934, hereinafter Flutka).

Claim 56 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Naidoo (USP 6,629,136).

Claims 57-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Ku et al. (USP 6,005,767, hereinafter Ku);

Claims 65, 67-68, and 71-72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, Ku, and Nevin (USP 6,553,919);

Claim 66 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, Ku, Nevin, and McNelly et al. (USP 6,243,130, hereinafter McNelly);

Claim 73 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, and Nevin; and

Claim 74 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nawaz, Yamada, Nevin, and Ku.

Claims 66-68 and 72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

REMARKS REGARDING EXAMINER'S ANSWER

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Yamada

The applicants respectfully maintain that Yamada does not teach selectively changing flow speed and flow direction based on locations of user input events within a flow area.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner notes that Yamada teaches "that scrolling speed and scrolling direction (i.e. flow speed and flow direction) are changed based on mouse cursor represented by speed indicators displayed relative to the initial centrally located position in fig. 6(c) in response to a ScrollMsg received by the Scroll Mapper" (Examiner's Answer, page 16, last paragraph). The applicants concur with this statement, and respectfully maintain that this statement supports the applicants' arguments.

As the Examiner states, Yamada's scrolling and display of the speed indicators are outputs produced by Yamada's application based on receipt of a ScrollMsg. As noted in the applicants' Brief, Yamada's ScrollMsg is produced independent of the locations of the user input events. As taught by Yamada, whenever the user clicks the scroll button, the active window will be scrolled, regardless of the location of the mouse cursor. Yamada's FIG. 5 illustrates scrolling control based on a movement of the mouse when the middle button on the mouse is clicked. Of particular note, if the mouse is moved 'rearward', as illustrated in FIG. 5, a ScrollMsg is issued to scroll the screen down. This ScrollMsg is issued whenever the scroll button is depressed and the mouse is moved rearward, regardless of the location of the mouse when the rearward movement occurs.

Because Yamada's control of scrolling is acknowledged in the Examiner's Answer to be based on receipt of a ScrollMsg, and Yamada's ScrollMsg is produced independent of the location of the mouse, the applicants respectfully maintain that Yamada cannot be said to teach changing flow speed and flow direction based on locations of user input events, as asserted in the Examiner's Answer, and in particular, cannot be said to teach changing flow speed and flow direction based on locations of user input events within a flow area, as taught and specifically claimed by the applicants.

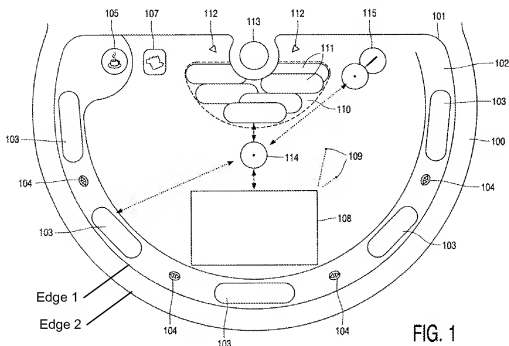
Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

The applicants respectfully maintain that the written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, is provided in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention as claimed in claims 66-68 and 72.

The Examiner's Answer acknowledges that the "written description for claims 67-68, and 72 can be found in fig. 1 and page 6, lines 14-17", and notes that the "key to determine whether the specification describes the limitations of claims 66-68 and 72 depends [on] the position of the table edge as shown in the figure" (Examiner's Answer,

page 17, last paragraph). The applicants concur with these statements, and respectfully maintain that these statements support the applicants' argument that claims 66-68 and 72 are supported in the specification.

The Examiner's Answer asserts that the "position of the table edge is ambiguous as displayed in figure 1. There are two possible edges in figure 1 namely edge 1 and edge 2 (see picture below)." (Examiner's Answer, page 17, last paragraph.)



The Examiner's Answer asserts that it is unclear which edge corresponds to the table edge. The applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion. The applicants' reference numeral 100 is identified as part of a table. The applicants respectfully note that Edge 2 is obviously an outer edge of the table 100, and Edge 1 is obviously an outer edge of the screen 101. The applicants further note that the area between the screen 101 and the outer edge of the table 100 is clearly a part of the table 100 as claimed in claim 66, and clearly an outer part of the table 100, as claimed in claims 67-68 and 72.

At page 6, lines 14-17, the applicants teach that the table 100 includes a "built-in" screen 101. The applicants respectfully maintain that a teaching of a "built-in" screen 101 that is illustrated as being set back from the outer edge of a table 100 clearly enables any person skilled in the art to make and use a touch screen that directly abuts a part of a table top, as claimed in claim 66; clearly enables one of skill in the art to make and use a touch screen that extends to an outer part of a table top as claimed in claim 67; and clearly enables one of skill in the art to make and use a touch screen that is enclosed in a table top by an outer part, as claimed in claims 68 and 72.

CONCLUSIONS

Because Yamada specifically teaches controlling flow based on a ScrollMsg that is independent of the location of the mouse that provides user events, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejection of claims 42-44, 47-52, 60-61, 65-68, and 71-74 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reversed by the Board, and the claims be allowed to pass to issue.

Because the specification and its reference to FIG. 1 clearly demonstrates that the applicants had possession of the claimed invention at the time that the application was filed, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejection of claims 66-68 and 72 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph be reversed by the Board, and the claims be allowed to pass to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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